

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 105734
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:AATHIBAULT,JR:CF
APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR
NEA/INS - MR KUX
NEA - MR DUBS
PM/DCA - MARIETTI
S/S - MR. GAMBLE
NSC: MR. SICK

-----092348Z 104287 /66

O 092314Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 105734

EXDIS//FOR CHARGE FROM AATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: APPROACH TO GOI ON INDIA OCEAN DEMILITARIZATION

1. THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF MAY 2 TO PRIME MINISTER DESAI INVITED INDIAN SUGGESTIONS ABOUT REALISTIC MEANS THE U.S. AND USSR MIGHT PURSUE TO ADVANCE THE INDIAN OCEAN DEMILITARIZATION ISSUE DURING THE FORTHCOMING TALKS ON THIS SUBJECT. THE LATTER ARE NOW SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 8 IN MOSCOW. IN THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR GOHEEN ON MAY 4 IT WAS AGREED THAT THE AMBASSADOR SHOULD SEEK GOI VIEWS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIS ARRIVAL IN NEW DELHI ON MAY 20. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE AND OUR DESIRE TO CONSIDER THEIR VIEWS THAT THE GOI SHOULD BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE THAT AMBASSADOR GOHEEN

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INTENDS TO TAKE UP THIS SUBJECT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER HIS ARRIVAL.

2. ACCORDINGLY, YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO APPROACH THE INDIANS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, AND AT THE HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL, TO UNDERScore THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN SEEKING GOI IDEAS FOR THE U.S.-SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN ARMS CONTROL

TALKS. AS THE PRESIDENT NOTES, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE
THRUST OF THOSE VIEWS WILL BE AIMED AT FACILITATING A REALIS-
TIC BILATERAL AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD MEET THE LEGITIMATE

NEEDS OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES. YOU SHOULD EXPRESS THE
HOPE ALSO THAT THE INDIANS WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO
GOHEEN DURING WEEK OF MAY 22 NOTING THAT A QUICK RESPONSE
OFFERS US THE BEST MEANS OF GIVING DUE CONSIDERATION TO
THEIR VIEWS. CHRISTOPHER

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